

A.L.P.S. News

ASSOCIATION OF LYCEUM PAST STUDENTS | GHAQDA EX-STUDENTI LICEO

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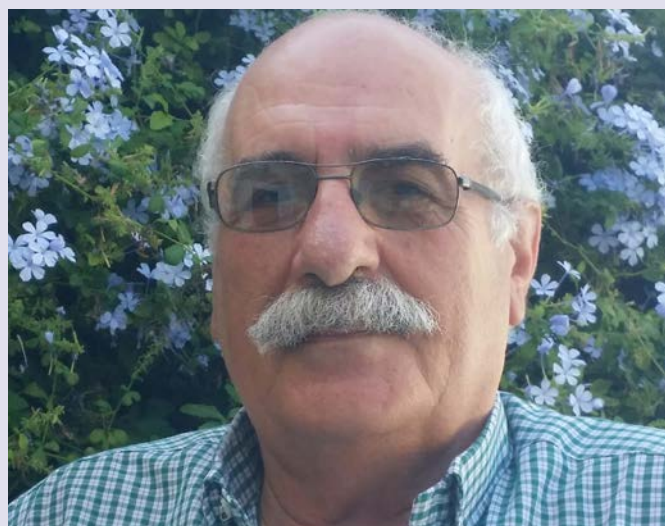
A.L.P.S. Newsletter Volume 15 | No 4

September 2015

Dear Members and Friends in A.L.P.S.

The hot summer season is fading away and the children head back to school just like we did in our younger years. I shall try and keep this message brief so that you can get on with the reading of this new issue of our ALPS News. Past issues and many photographs can be found on our web-site at www.alpsmalta.com. Trust that you have all had a good summer holiday. Now we brace ourselves to again commit for even more work within the association. Switching off over the summer recess enables us to rest whilst preparing for more work to be carried out in future months. We want to keep up the good work so that we can repeat to you in future newsletters, that the membership record continues to increase. First and foremost please remember to renew your membership and if each one of us can commit to recruit just one new friend who was a LYCEUM past student, the sky's the limit for where our membership numbers can go. There is strength in numbers

and we need to show just how strong The Association of Lyceum Past Students can be. From the last issue of ALPS newsletter, many things have happened. Some have been pleasant and some others have been sad. Life goes on and we shall of course carry the memories of our dear departed ones and say prayers that they may now enter into the Kingdom of Heaven. Looking at the positive side, I can recall the many events that ALPS has organized this year for its members and friends culminating in a most successful and well attended summer barbeque at The Corinthia San Gorg hotel. On that night we had visitors joining the gathering who came from Canada, Australia, England. The raffles that were drawn have left something in the ALPS purse for future eventualities. Thanks to those council members who gave a helping hand during the event, the B-B-Q was a success and has left a good impression on all those who have attended. A

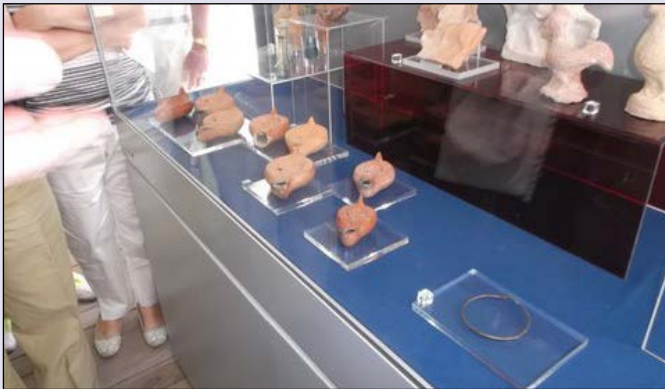


word of thanks to the wives of council members who helped in preparing the hampers, and have sold a record number of tickets during the night itself. Well done to everyone.

This year I am completing the 12th term as President of ALPS. Actually it has been a longer time than that as I assumed an Acting President's role when our founder president Dr. Guido Saliba started feeling tired and resigned. I have found

these past years 12+ to be challenging and gratifying. A word of thanks goes to each ALPS member who served on council of administration from inception date of the association in 1994. God willing, I shall remain on the board in the President's seat up to next election in 2016.

George Stagno Navarra
President A.L.P.S.





We had a Most Enjoyable Cultural Tour Of Mdina & Rabat

On the morning of the 30th May, we saw a good gathering for a most interesting cultural tour of Mdina and Rabat. The chosen guide Mrs Agnes Spiteri, commenced with the Mdina Museum and proceeded to take the ALPS group around the different halls that are so full of treasures. It is exactly on such occasions that we come to terms with ourselves and realize, that as we grow older we get to know something new. We live in an island that is so very rich in history and yet there may still be hidden treasures that we have

not as yet known or seen. After the Cathedral Museum, we then proceeded to the Mdina Cathedral itself. We were shown around whilst a commentary was being made by the chosen guide about its history from the date it was built and the internal decorations that adorn such temple. After a short mid-morning break, we then walked together out of the old city and proceeded on foot to the St Paul's Catacombs Rabat. At this stage, our next chosen guide for the catacombs was Fr. Joe Barbara who took the time to explain in great detail the origins of

the burial rituals of our ancestors. We walked in small groups inside the ancient underground graveyard and could observe the many signs that are inscribed in the rocks. They all have different meanings and Fr. Joe explained and answered to many questions that have been put to him by those present. This was, what one may term as a great success of a cultural tour, that has taken us back in history and brought us up to date with the wonderful treasures that belong to our island nation. After

the walking tour, many were those who have joined the organizers to a Ravjoli lunch at the Paristyle Restaurant in the centre of Rabat. Thanks to ALPS, this cultural tour was another incentive for even more of the same in future months because many were those who have encouraged us to organize repeats of such walking tours, to places of interest around the Maltese Islands. It is hoped therefore for our next similar event, we can have many more of you ALPS members and friends, joining us to make greater success.

Alps Forthcoming Day Tour in Gozo on the 9th October 2015

Over the recent past weeks we have been working on other events that are in the pipeline for the coming months. Starting from October 2015, we shall be having a day tour and this time we shall be going to the sister island of Gozo. We want to go visiting the Magro Brothers canning works to observe the method used for production of food products that are consumed in our homes. If enough interest is shown, we plan to organize this day trip on Friday the 9th October 2015. A private bus shall be organized to the Gozo Ferry Cirkewwa.

The bus leaves exactly at 0900hrs from near San Gwann Church. We shall be catching the 09:45hrs Gozo Ferry (arriving around 10:15hrs



in Gozo), a coach will take us to Magro Food Village in Xewkija. After the factory tour with Hanini Products included and Savini creations, we shall proceed for a

set lunch at Lantern Restaurant in Marsalforn. Kindly let us know your preferred starter and main course to enable us to notify the caterers accordingly.

(Ferry tickets - not included - to be obtained from the ticket boot in Gozo on producing the Karta Anzjan/Identity Card) An all inclusive price of €18 per person will cover the charge for the transport and lunch in Gozo.

A booking form for this tour is herewith attached. Please complete sign and return with your payment to Secretary General Alex Borg Alson no: 82 Naxxar Road San Gwann SGN 9032. Latest booking -date for such trip will be on Tuesday 6th October 2015. Come and enjoy this day trip with ALPS and get to know better, how food products are manufactured in factories that are equipped with the latest machinery and technologies.

The Pwales Festa Sant Anna on the 11th July 2015

The Festa Sant Anna this year, has attracted more than 200 ALPS members with their families and friends, who came to share with us and celebrate a most befitting celebration at this quaint little chapel that is surrounded by fields and farms. The neighbors from the Pwales valley joined the event by coming along and bringing with them fruits that are grown in the fields that are tilled in the chapel surroundings. This year, we had as main celebrant Fr. Joseph Barbara who substituted

our spiritual director Fr. William Bartolo who was himself on an overseas mission. The short and meaningful homily that was delivered, kept everyone listening carefully. After the homily, the celebrant blessed a brand new bell that was produced in the United Kingdom by Messrs. Taylor, the renowned bell manufacturers. This new bell has been fully financed by one of the Pwales neighbors Mrs Dolores Dimech. The stone cross will now also be erected on the chapel façade. The old

one had been damaged by a storm over the past winter. To the benefactress Dolor we heartily say a big "THANK YOU" and God will bless her kind deed and reciprocate for her kind generosity towards this place of worship at the Pwales Hamlet. Holy mass continues to be celebrated inside the Pwales chapel from the month of October.

Hereunder we are showing the date and time for **each month up to the end of 2015.**

17th OCTOBER
Time 17:30hrs.

21st NOVEMBER
Time 16:30hrs
(Remembrance Mass for ALPS members & friends)

8th DECEMBER
Time 11:00hrs
(Christmas mass with Festive Carols for the occasion)

Your attendance on such announced dates, fills us with courage to continue to look after and maintain this little chapel at Pwales in its best condition.

New Bell For St. Anne's Chapel, Pwales

On Saturday, July 11, 2015, the Association of Lyceum Past Pupils (ALPS) celebrated the feast of Sant' Anna, the Patron Saint of the Chapel. Quite a large number of members, their families and friends, and the local residents of the Pwales community attended the Mass, which was celebrated by Fr. Joe Barbara MSSP. The choir "Voices of Faith" under the direction of Mrs. Veronique DeGabriele Ferrante gave a very pleasant rendition of traditional hymns in Maltese and English.

After the Holy Creed, Mr. Kenneth Cauchi, a leading Maltese campanologist, lecturer and author, gave a brief talk on recent history of campanology in Malta. He made specific reference to the Henry Taylor Founders who founded some of the leading Church Bells in Malta, notably the largest one The George Cross Siege Bell, cast in 1992 and weighing 10 tons 14 cwt 2 qrs 3 lbs. Mr. Cauchi then described the distinguishing features of the New Bell for the Pwales Chapel.

This bell was cast by the Taylor Foundry in 2013. It weighs 26 kilograms and is cast in bronze. As is accepted practice within bell foundries, each bell has distinctive features either made as part of the casting mould or later as an addition in the form of an engraving. This bell has both of these types of features. On the front, two engravings read: "ALPS" and below "ANNA". Below these is the date "2013" with the logo of



Henry Taylor cast in between the "0" and the "1" of the year. The back has an engraving reading: "MUNIFICENTIA D. DIMECH AN. DMI. MMXV" which is translated as: "GENEROSITY OF D. DIMECH, YEAR OF OUR LORD 2015". It is to be noted that Mrs. Dolores Dimech, a Pwales resident and a regular attendant of the ALPS Monthly Mass, personally and generously offered and defrayed the expenses in connection with the purchase and transportation of this Bell. On the top are two more cast features: one bearing the number "167" which is the mold reference number, and "654" which is the "order

number". As these are the key identifying features of this bell, they are recorded in the archives of the Henry Taylor Foundry.

Fr. Joe Barbara then proceeded with the Ceremony of the Dedication and Blessing of the New Bell. This is a simple but very poignant ceremony. He then proceeded to ring the bell with 3 chimes. At this point, Mrs. Dolores Dimech was asked to also ring 3 chimes in recognition of her as the "godmother" of the bell. The final blessing was that of the new "stone cross" which was made to replace the one that was destroyed during a

storm recently. This cross will be mounted over the arch of the belfry from which will hang the new bell "ANNA". In addition to this, a married couple, also residents of Pwales, dedicated their baby son to Sant' Anna.

After the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, the ALPS Committee Chairman George Stagno Navarra made a speech of appreciation and invited those present to a reception courtesy of ALPS.

Joseph D Buttigieg
Council Member
(More photos on page 11)

Grand Summer Barbeque on the 24th July 2015

This year ALPS organized the summer barbeque at the five star Corinthia San Gorg Hotel. There was a large crowd attending and it included friends from overseas like Canada, Australia and England. Everyone had a great time and the apex to this magnificent event, was the drawing of raffles that included a Star Prize. It consisted of holiday accommodation for two persons at the luxurious Grand Hotel Lienz in Austria (in the Tyrol Region). The prize has been won by Mrs. Vivienne Zammit. Congratulations to the winner. A good number of decorative hampers that were full of food and drink and other giftware, have also been drawn. Many were those B-B-Q guests seen carrying such prizes when they were leaving the venue. In his usual manner, David Vella kept the guests duly entertained with popular tunes during the whole evening. We do our best to make every occasion a great success for you members and friends of the association. Your attendance to such events gives us much satisfaction knowing that the scope is being reached and accepted by you as always. Let us also show our gratitude to Secretary General Alex Borg who very kindly donated a good number of items from his business outlet The Kitchen Store of San Gwann. The gifts truly enriched the decorated raffle hampers for the BBQ.





A Tribute to a Great Friend - Charlie Gatt (R.I.P.)

In our last edition of ALPS news, we dedicated a half page (page4), to say thanks to our dear friend Charlie Gatt, who had intervened on our behalf and obtained an expensive 'Star Prize' for the summer B-B-Q raffles. Charlie was ever so happy; to have managed to donate such a gift that was a means of fundraising for our association. Regrettably, CHARLIE GATT passed on to eternal life during the month of August at his residence in Connecticut / U.S.A. We are informed that he died in his sleep. To his darling wife Sallie and to his children, we extend our heartfelt condolences and we pray that our dear friend Charlie reaps from the fruits of his good deeds in his lifetime. Charlie knew how to be happy



and to share such feeling with all those around him. His success in life had brought him in contact with many

important figures that have all had great respect for such a genuine and true gentleman. Our friend gained his success

in the business that he ran for many years namely the " World Travel Magazine " and we are confident that such publication will live on and continues to flourish even after his death. His many friends from Malta and around the world will remember such a good man.

Rest in Peace dear friend and colleague in ALPS. Thanks for all the help you have extended to The Association of Lyceum Past Students. The school of your childhood 'IL-LICEO' bids farewell to a staunch student who not only remembered his classmates but wanted that the name of LYCEUM lives on. We shall include our dear friend Charlie Gatt during Holy Mass at Pwales.

ALPS Retreat at Manresa Gozo for the Year 2016

As already notified in a previous newsletter, the dates for next year's -ALPS spiritual week-end retreat at Manresa House in Gozo, are firmly booked for the 15th/16th /17th April 2016. Kindly inform Secretary General of your intention to attend as we have limited number of rooms on first come first serve basis. Send a note with your confirmation to Alex Borg alpsmalta@gmail.com or tel: 9988 8579 / tel: 2137 6387.



Opera *La Boheme* at the Astra Theatre in Gozo

Yet another success story for our dear friend Joseph Fenech who tells us that, the sale of opera tickets this year has exceeded last year's figure. If you may have a last minute decision to come and join the ALPS group for the opera La

Boheme, it is suggested that you immediately get in touch with our colleague Joe. If there may be any cancellations he will know about your request and inform you. Joe Fenech may be contacted by tel: 2141 0632 / Mob: 7941 0632

Changed E-Mail Addresses of Members And Friends Of ALPS

Some of you who are recorded on ALPS database, may have switched to another service provider over the past months. Hence the transmission of our newsletter and /or other announcements keeps coming back with message "unable to deliver"

In such cases do please write to us and send the correct e-mail address: Please write as early as possible to: Council Member Oscar Galea on: oaggalea@maltanet.net We thank you in advance for your continued support and co-operation in the matter.



ALPS Grand Reunion At Liceo in Hamrun on the 14th November 2015

This year we shall be organizing the annual Grand Reunion for ALL past students of the Lyceum. In particular, it is aimed for those Lyceum past students who had started or ended their studies at secondary level of education in the Lyceum Hamrun during the year 1965 (50 years ago). This reunion is always open to ALL past LYCEUM Students no matter the age or year of their school attendance. We can all be happy together and enjoy a nice evening. This event shall be held at the LICEO main hall with Holy mass that will be followed by a party. Finger food and drinks will be served to the guests. Invitations will be posted to all those who

complete and return the attached booking form and send in their donation of €18.00 per person. Wives/Partners accompanying, are more than welcome to this occasion. Each year we have a record attendance and we are again hoping to see as many of you LYCEUM past students attending on the 14th November 2015. Time shall be 19.00hrs for Mass and the party starts around 19.45hrs. The completed forms (attached hereto) together with your remittance are to be posted to Secretary general Mr. Alex Borg at: ALSON 82 Naxxar Rd San Gwann SGN 9032. (E-mail: alpsmalta@gmail.com / Tel: 99888579 / 2137 6387)



The ALPS Yuletide Dinner on 12th December 2015

To many of you members and friends of ALPS, this has become an annual treat for your wives/and families. Yet again, we negotiated best favorable prices for the dinner itself at €35.00 per person. Affordable and advantageous prices for whole week-end stay at The Radisson Blu Resort Hotel Ghajn Tuffieha,

are listed in the opposite page with different choices for overnight accommodation that is also inclusive of the Yuletide dinner. If you may prefer to attend to Christmas dinner only, please indicate the appropriate choice on the booking form that is here with attached to the newsletter. The week-end starts

from Friday 11th December. The Yuletide dinner is on 12th and Holy Mass will be celebrated inside the hotel on Sunday morning the 13th December at 11.00am. This takes us into the Christmas spirit together. Before you put this newsletter down come join us everyone, fill, out your reservation/booking

form that is herewith attached. We normally have a most encouraging attendance. Let us see if we can beat the last years' number. We can tell you that the chosen venue gives you Easy parking, Easy access, Good food, Good prices and above all, Good company. That is hard to beat!



A.L.P.S Yuletide Dinner

Friday 12th December 2015

Radisson Golden Sands

Pork belly and smoked ham hock terrine with pickled vegetables
Penne with sundried tomatoes, black olives and artichoke hearts

Carvery

Roast Beef Rib on the Bone with Thyme Jus

From the Hot Counter

Chicken and Mushroom Casserole
Poached Salmon with Braised Fennel and Dill Cream Sauce
Vegetable Curry
Basmati Steamed Rice
Steamed Panache of Vegetables
Oven Roasted Potatoes with Fennel Seeds
Natural Salads: Rucola, Lettuce, Tomatoes, Cucumber

Festive Treats

Traditional roast turkey with Festive Trimmings

On a sweeter note...

Layered Chocolate and Toffee Cake, Red Fruit Sorbet
and Warm Lemon Pocket

Fresh Brewed Coffee & Mince Pies

2 glasses of Local Wine & Half bottle of Water

Dress:	Lounge	Price:	Adults at €35.00 per person
Welcome Drink:	20:00hrs		Children at €17.00 (Under 12 years)
Dinner:	20:30 onwards		

1 Night Stay for 2 People including Christmas Dinner on Sat 12th & B'fast on the 13th Dec	€130.00
2 Night Stay for 2 People including Dinner on 11th , B'fast on 12th , Christmas Dinner on Sat 12th & B'fast on the 13th Dec 15	€205.00
1 Night Stay for 1 Person including Christmas Dinner on Sat 12th & B'fast on the 13th Dec 15	€95.00
2 Night Stay for 1 Person including Dinner on 11th , B'fast on 12th , Christmas Dinner on Sat 12th & B'fast on the 13th Dec 15	€155.00
Additional rate for 3rd person joining for 2 nights HB including Saturday's Christmas Dinner Dec 15	€100.00
Additional rate for 3rd person joining for 1 night HB including Saturday's Christmas Dinner Dec 15	€63.00
Children 0 -12 sharing with Parents supplement Dec 15	-
Children 12 + sharing with Parents supplement Dec 15 per person per night	€32.00
Christmas Dinner only on the 12th Dec 15 - Adults (not staying in house)	€35.00
Christmas Dinner only on the 12th Dec 15 - Children (not staying in house)	€17.00
Sunday Buffet Lunch on the 13th Dec 15 (optional extra)	€29.00

The ALPS Annual Trip Abroad For Next Year 2016

By the time that you may be reading this Newsletter for the month of September 2015, the ALPS group shall be returning from their holiday abroad in the Puglia region of Italy. Each year we organize a holiday and a good number joins the ALPS group for such guided tour.

Having been encouraged by our dear friend Milo Vassallo to again organize a 'super trip' to Canada and the States for next year, we are sending out this message and would love to hear from you members and friends of ALPS, about your inclination to join

us for such trip. If there may be enough interest expressed from you members and friends, we shall obtain and negotiate the best possible prices from renowned tour operators, that shall be inclusive of airline ticketing, hotel accommodation and excursions that may be taken on such a tour. We have done it in 2007 when we organized a Grand Reunion with our LYCEUM colleagues living in Toronto and other parts of Canada. After Toronto, we flew to Calgary and proceeded to Vancouver via the Rockies. The holiday ended with a cruise

to Alaska. May be, this time we shall be concentrating more on the land tours in Canada and the United States when we shall be accompanied by our friend Milo who knows the area pretty well. Do tell us from now your intentions, to be able to discuss with reliable operators in this trade and get the best prices to travel together as an ALPS group for next year 2016. We shall be going for another reunion in Toronto and then proceed to Montreal, Ottawa, Quebec and finally New York. If you know of any LICEO past students living there, do please

tell us in advance so that we may establish early contact with each one of them for such reunion. Your written message on the subject can be addressed to Secretary General Alex Borg on alpsmalta@gmail.com or a letter directed to: Alson no 82 Naxxar San Gwann SGN 9032. These long haul trips take a lot of time to prepare and we therefore prefer to receive soonest your views and intensions on this subject. The earlier that we start our preparations, the better the chances of having a most pleasant and successful holiday together.

Have You Forgotten to Pay your Annual Subscription!

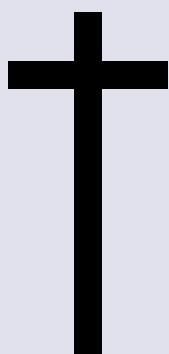
Without in any way wishing to make a nuisance of ourselves, we keep reminding those who have not as yet paid their annual subscriptions, to please send in your payment as soon as possible. We truly depend on that little income from your membership subscription that helps us to make ends meet with the regular monthly expenses that we have to honor.

Kindly direct such payment

to Hon. Treasurer David Abela with postal address: 'Juniper' Triq Ganni Vella Tal-Qattus B'kara – tel: 9902 0845 / 2148 7693 – e-mail: david.r.abela@gmail.com For those of you who are always punctual and have paid the renewal subscription, we say thank you for the support that you give to ALPS. And to those who are now sending in their payment, may we say thanks to you in anticipation.



In Memoriam



Let us remember in our prayers those who have passed on to Eternal Life.

Our Founder President Dr. Guido Saliba

ALPS dear friend and benefactor Charlie Gatt (U.S.A.)

Anthony Mercieca - ALPS Membership no: 16

Ms. Isabelle Fenech (sister of council member Joe Fenech)



Mrs. Karmen Buttigieg (Sister-in-Law of council member Joseph Buttigieg)

Charles Calleja and all past LICEO

students who have passed away .

We also keep in our prayers the sick and aged members and friends of ALPS.

A Thought for this Month...

*THE SECRET TO STAYING YOUNG AND BEING HAPPY
IS LOVING WHAT YOU DO AND LOVING THE PERSON
YOU ARE WITH --- SIMPLE AS THAT
(BY: DAME GILLIAN LYNNE)*







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